

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated October 13, 2010, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 13, 2011. Applicants submit this response to place the application in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-7, 18-21 and 30-35 are pending in the application. Claims 1-7, 18-21 and 30-32, 34-43 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 1, 18 and 30 have been amended. Claim 33 has been cancelled. New claims 36-43 have been added to recite aspects of the invention. Applicants submit that the amendments and new claims do not introduce new matter.

Further, Applicants are not conceding in this application that those amended (or cancelled) claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the claimed subject matter. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these (pre-amended or cancelled claims) and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Claim Objections

Claim 31 is objected to because of informalities. Specifically, the Final Office Action states:

Claim 31, discloses the limitation “query component” however, there is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim. For the purpose of examination, the examiner is making the assumption that “query component” is suppose to be amended to “query portion”.

Final Office Action, p. 2.

Applicants submit that it is not claim 31, but rather claim 30 that recites the limitation “query component”. With this response, Applicants have amended claim 30 to correct the informalities as suggested by the Final Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection is obviated.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Final Office Action states that claims 33-35 are deemed to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if incorporated into the independent claims or written in independent form. Final Office Action, p. 2. The Final Office Action also suggests filing terminal disclaimers to avoid Obvious or Statutory double patenting with U.S. Patents Numbers 6,996,558 and 6,954,748. Final Office Action, p. 2.

With this response, Applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 18 and 30 to recite the limitations of claim 33 and cancelled claim 33 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are allowable and request allowance of the same.

A terminal disclaimer is also filed herewith.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7, 18-21 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Gupta et al.*, (U.S. Patent No. 6,956,593, hereinafter *Gupta*).

As described above, with this response, Applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 18 and 30 to recite the limitations of claim 33, which the Final Office Action indicated as being allowable if incorporated into the independent claims or written in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is obviated.

Therefore, the claims are believed to be allowable, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

If the Examiner believes any issues remain that prevent this application from going to issue, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact Gero McClellan, attorney of record, at (336) 698-4286, to discuss strategies for moving prosecution forward toward allowance.

Respectfully submitted, and
S-signed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.4,

/Gero G. MCCLELLAN, Reg. #44227/

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